

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



Notice of Wildlife Corridor Study Teleconference Workshop for the Carrizo Energy Solar Farm Project (07-AFC-8)

The California Energy Commission Staff will conduct a workshop via teleconference only to coordinate the wildlife corridor study for the proposed Carrizo Energy Solar Farm Project (CESF). The teleconference workshop will provide an opportunity for agencies, the public and other interested parties to present questions and comments on the current scope of work (see attached), and to participate in the process of conducting the study. All interested agencies and members of the public are invited to participate. The teleconference workshop date, time and contact information are as follows:

**Wednesday, January 7, 2009
9:00 AM - Noon or earlier (when completed)**

Audio and Video Access Information

COMPUTER LOGON WITH A DIRECT PHONE NUMBER

1. Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: 926 557 493
2. When prompted, enter your information and the following **meeting password: cec1234!**
3. After you login, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide your phone number. In the Number box, type your area code and phone number and click OK to receive a call back on your phone for the audio of the meeting. International callers can use the "Country/Region" button to help make their connection.

COMPUTER LOGON FOR CALLERS WITH AN EXTENSION PHONE NUMBER, ETC.

1. Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the **unique meeting number: 926 557 493**
2. When prompted, enter your information and the following meeting password: cec1234!
3. After you login, a prompt will ask for your phone number. **CLICK CANCEL.**
4. Instead call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login. International callers can dial in using the

"Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

TELEPHONE ONLY (NO COMPUTER ACCESS)

Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted, enter the unique meeting number above. International callers can select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For help with problems or questions trying to join or attend the meeting, please call WebEx Technical Support at 1-866-229-3239.

System Requirements: To see if your computer is compatible, visit <http://support.webex.com/support/system-requirements.html>

Meeting Preparation: The playback of UCF (Universal Communications Format) rich media files requires appropriate players. To view this type of rich media files in the meeting, please check whether you have the players installed on your computer by going to <https://energy.webex.com/energy/systemdiagnosis.php>

Purpose

The purpose of this teleconference workshop is to facilitate laying the final ground work for conducting the Wildlife Corridor Study in the Carrizo Plains in coordination with the CESF applicant, applicants for Optisolar's proposed Topaz Solar Farm and SunPower's proposed California Valley Solar Ranch, the public, interveners in the CESF proceeding, and local, state and federal agencies. The agenda for the teleconference workshop is as follows:

1. To receive comments and answer questions on the draft scope of work for the study which will be undertaken by the Energy Commission's consultant for wildlife corridor modeling, South Coast Wildlands. The draft scope of work will be posted on the Energy Commission's website during the week of December 29, 2008;
2. To provide an overview of the study methodology and process;
3. To facilitate the exchange of data between parties; and
4. To obtain or identify resources to rank criteria for the modeled input of the focal species consisting of San Joaquin kit fox, tule elk and pronghorn.

Comments received during the teleconference workshop will be used to guide the study. Written comments are welcome and may be submitted in writing during the course of the study to John Kessler, Project Manager, at the address on this letterhead or by email to jkessler@energy.state.ca.us.

Background

On October 25, 2007, Carrizo Energy, LLC submitted an AFC to the California Energy Commission to develop a nominal 177 megawatt (MW) net solar thermal power plant in eastern San Luis Obispo County, California. The 640-acre proposed project site is located immediately adjacent to California State Route 58 (SR-58/Carrisa Highway),

Note: The California Energy Commission's formal name is the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

approximately three miles west of Simmler. On December 19, 2007, the Energy Commission accepted the AFC as complete which initiated the Energy Commission staff's independent review of the proposed project. On July 3, 2008, the applicant filed a Supplement to the AFC describing changes to the proposed project. The primary changes consist of proposing that the solar reflectors be aligned in a north-south rather than an east-west direction, rotating and relocating the power block slightly east of the original location along the northern site boundary, reducing the length of the two air-cooled condensers, performing on-site manufacturing of solar collectors, and reducing the number of steam drums from twenty to eight in the solar field and from two to none in the power block. The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and deciding whether to approve applications for construction and operation of thermal power plants in California with a capacity of 50 MW or greater.

On November 21, 2008, Energy Commission staff published the Preliminary Staff Assessment containing staff's initial engineering and environmental evaluation of the CESF project. Among the technical areas for which staff is still evaluating mitigation measures to reduce the CESF's potential adverse impacts to less than significant, is Biological Resources. Energy Commission staff, is working with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), San Luis Obispo County (county), and the CESF applicant to assess habitat quality and connectivity issues in the Carrizo Plains. Staff intends to use the results of the Wildlife Corridor Study to develop a suite of mitigation measures that would mitigate the CESF project's direct and cumulative contributions to Biological Resource impacts to less than significant, which would then become recommendations in the Final Staff Assessment.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser provides the public with assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact Elena Miller, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by email at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance of the workshop.

Questions and Access to Information

General information and documents on the proposed project are available on the Energy Commission's website at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/carrizo>. Please direct all news media inquiries to Susanne Garfield, Assistant Director for Media and Public Communications, at (916) 654-4989 or email mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us. For general or technical questions on the subject matter, please contact John Kessler, Project Manager, at (916) 654-4679 or email jkessler@energy.state.ca.us. If you are unable to attend the workshop, written comments may be sent to the staff's project manager electronically or to the Energy Commission's street address shown on the letterhead of this notice. Please include "Docket No. 07-AFC-8" in referring to the case.

Date: December 26, 2008

/ SIGNED /

TERRENCE O'BRIEN, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission & Environmental
Protection Division

Note: The California Energy Commission's formal name is the
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

Proof of Service List
Mail Lists: 7270, 7271, 7272, 7273

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